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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
Takashi SASO, et al. : EXAMINER: TO, T.
SERIAL NO: 09/890,765 :
FILED: August 3, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3616
FOR: GAS GENERATOR :

PROVISIONAL ELECTION OF SPECIES

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3600

SIR:

In response to the Election of Species requirement dated November 19, 2002, the Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Species 7 corresponding to Figures 17-20 and identifies Claims 7-11 as readable on the provisionally elected species.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the election requirement based on MPEP § 803, which states:

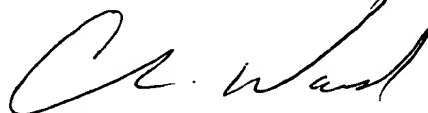
... If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Election requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single species be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-13 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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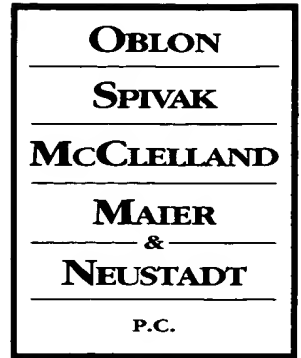
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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231



Re: U.S. Application
Serial No: 09/890,765
Filed: August 3, 2001
Examiner: TO, T.
Group: 3616
Inventor: Takashi SASO, et al.
For: GAS GENERATOR

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SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

PROVISIONAL ELECTION OF SPECIES

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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